



# Spark Gap

Vol. 39, Issue 11, November 2022 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities*

## *On Our MARC:*

This Saturday is our club meeting at 8 am at the JCREMC building in Franklin. Don't forget next month is the annual Christmas Brunch/Dirty Santa Gift Exchange. Bring a dish to share, and a gift (new or used) to exchange.

On Saturday, 11/12/2022 we held our MARC SET (Simulated Emergency Test) exercise, which coincided with the State's SET. The plan was to increase the realism this year. I initiated the Net at 8 am sharp local time as interim Net Control. Bob, N9SIU then got in his car at approximately 8:15 am and drove to the Radio Room, giving simulated road conditions en-route. Once he was set up, I transferred Net Control to him and continued taking notes throughout the exercise as back-up. Jack, W8ISH notified Stephanie at approximately 8:53 am that our Net was up and N9SIU was Net Control at our Radio Room (our EOC). Our scenario was a sudden snow storm. Ironically, the weather tried to cooperate with our exercise:





Thanks to Jack Parker, W8ISH for the pictures to capture the day.

I recorded 21 check-ins for the SET, including W9EMI from the Columbus ARES SET, N9UN, Marion County ARES Assistant who relayed an ICS213 message from Marion County ARES, and KC9RPX from Monroe County. A number of simulated road reports, power outages (some actual), and traffic emergencies were reported as part of the exercise. WinLink messages were relayed to Dayton Ohio ARES who had agreed to participate with us, and WinLink was sent to State ARES and RACES. W9HR relayed a simulated emergency message to Net Control N9SIU via simplex, who relayed the info to Jack, W8ISH via simplex, who in turn sent the message by WinLink back to W9HR to check for relay accuracy. Fortunately, the message passed through all stations with 100% accuracy. This added a level of realism to the exercise. The MARC SET was ended at 10:40 am. Thanks to all who participated.

73,  
Tim WC9G



## ***NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS***

*K9ICP – Bruce Tisdale*

*K9DMX – Douglas Corliss*

*WB9GCV – James Jeffery*

*WS9H – Rhonda Curtis*

*W9TEJ – Ron Koons*

*WC9G – Tim Aldridge*





# Reaching Youth Through Amateur Radio in the Classroom

ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, attended the Georgia Educational Technology Conference, held November 2 - 4, 2022. The conference was the first part in a series of planned ARRL exhibits to meet with teachers and promote amateur radio in the classroom. Assisted by ARRL Teachers Institute Instructor Wayne Greene, KB4DSF, along with volunteers Cyndi Goodgame, K5CYN, and Betsey Greene, they spoke to hundreds of teachers, school administrators, and technology directors about the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology.

ARRL's participation at this conference, as well as future events, is meant to inform and network with educators looking to incorporate amateur radio into their curriculum.

"The level of interest among teachers was incredible!" said Goodgame. "Our booth enjoyed heavy traffic for the duration of the conference, much of the time with all four of us engaged in discussions with multiple people simultaneously. Except for a couple of teachers we met who were already hams, few teachers had heard of amateur radio before this conference. These teachers were absolutely amazed at the possibilities that exist when including amateur radio and related educational experiences in their schools."

"Teachers were especially excited at the connections between amateur radio and space. We shared information about the ARISS program -- Amateur Radio on the International Space Station -- as well as communicating via amateur satellites. Enough teachers were interested in learning more about the relationship between amateur radio and satellites communications that we put together an impromptu live demonstration using two handhelds and an Arrow antenna we had for display in the booth. We gathered a crowd of teachers, along with a few students who were presenting their Student Showcase projects and headed outside. We enjoyed a good satellite pass and made contacts through AO-27. One of the students even got on the air!"

"Overall, it was a great conference and a great opportunity for ARRL to network with educators and work with them to help get more youth engaged in amateur radio."

*ARRL News ..... November 2022*



# Keeping Lines of Communication Open— CERT & Ham Radio

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members know that communication during an emergency is vital. Don Lewis of the Alexandria Radio Club in Virginia wants CERTs around the country to know how amateur radios can help.



Amateur radios, also known as ham radios, are useful tools. Lewis, who is trained in CERT, explained that ham radios are more powerful than regular radios. They aren't incredibly expensive, and they have a wide range of uses.

Sometimes CERTs may need to work together throughout a large area. They need to be able to report things that they have found. They sometimes even need to request medical support. Using a radio is easier, safer, and more efficient than sending a person back with messages, says Lewis. Ham radios enable a CERT to communicate over much greater distances than standard radios. This can improve the level at which a CERT can coordinate. CERTs already use ham radios in exercises and they have extended their range and effectiveness.

The City of Berkeley, California's CERT has already begun using ham radios in city-wide disaster drills. In the winter of 2018, they held a 24-hour mock disaster where they practiced their ham radio skills to better prepare their city. They were able to maintain communications in the whole city for the entire 24-hour exercise. This allowed them to relay critical information to citizens and disaster crews. They were also able to use hams to aid the city during a blackout in November of 2017. The CERTs used solar powered batteries in their ham radios. This allowed them to function even when power and phones were down.

Ham radio instructions are also built into Pasadena, California's emergency management system. The area experiences earthquakes several times a year. The quakes can destroy cell towers and phones lines in an instant. Ham radios can be a huge asset during a disaster like this, so Pasadena has a network of radio operators trained to take over communications at any time they need. They can contact hospitals or fire stations to better serve their community. Ham operators can even aide families in contacting one another once a disaster has passed.

Are you interested in learning how to operate a ham radio of your own to serve your community? Then the Amateur Radio Emergency Service ([ARES](#)) may be for you. They are a group of radio operators who volunteer for various disasters and public service events. They can provide guidance for training, equipment, licensing, and anything else that you may like to know about hams!

# INDIANA HAMFESTS

November 19 & 20

Ft. Wayne Hamfest

Allen Co War Memorial Coliseum

4000 Parnell Avenue. Fort Wayne, IN

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November 26, 2022

Wabash Valley ARA Turkey Fest

Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds 6550 North State Road 59 Brazil, IN

<https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest.php>

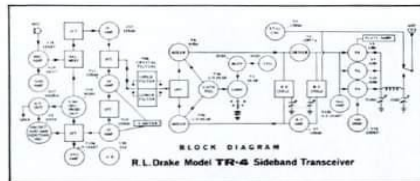
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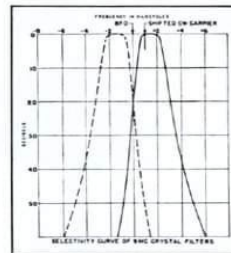
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## MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month  
at the Johnson County REMC building 750 International Dr. Franklin, IN 46131

See our website, [www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org), for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a *HAM* to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

### W9MID Repeater:

146.835/  
146.235 MHz  
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

### Club Officers:

President: Tim Aldridge - WC9G  
Vice President: Rhonda Curtis - WS9H  
Secretary: Jim Adams – KB9JMU  
Treasurer: Jacki Frederick - KI6QOG  
Repeater Trustee - Chris Frederick – KQ9Y

### W9MID Repeater:

443.525/  
448.525 MHz  
(151.4 Hz PL Tone) YEASU SYSTEM FUSION (C4FM )

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS  
146.835/146.235 MHz (151.4 Hz PL Tone)

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 836  
Franklin, Indiana  
46131

Spark Gap Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

*Please send your articles to my email: [n9siu@yahoo.com](mailto:n9siu@yahoo.com) no later than the 2nd week of the month.*



**Thanks to Johnson Co. REMC for the use of their building for meetings and testing.**

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